

60602A

We claim:

1. (~~One~~Twice Amended) A macrocellular acoustic foam obtainable by subjecting a foamable gel comprising at least one blowing agent and at least one polymeric resin composition to an extrusion process, wherein said polymeric resin composition comprises

- A) one or more homopolymers of ethylene, one or more C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>  $\alpha$ -olefin polymer, or a combination thereof;
- B) one or more halogenated flame retardants;
- C) optionally, one or more polymers other than that of Component A; and
- D) optionally, one or more flame retardant synergists,

wherein component A does not include substantially random interpolymers comprising polymer units derived from one or more  $\alpha$ -olefin monomers with one or more vinyl or vinylidene aromatic monomers and/or hindered aliphatic or cycloaliphatic vinyl or vinylidene monomers and the extrusion process is conducted at a die pressure greater than the prefoaming critical die pressure but less than or equal to four times that of said prefoaming critical die pressure.

Claims 2 to 8 were cancelled by the Preliminary Amendment filed on December 11, 2002.

9. (~~One~~Twice Amended) A macrocellular acoustic foam comprising;

- A) one or more homopolymers of ethylene, one or more C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>  $\alpha$ -olefin polymers, or a combination thereof;
- B) one or more halogenated flame retardants;
- C) optionally, one or more polymers other than that of Component A; and
- D) optionally, one or more flame retardant synergists

wherein component A does not include substantially random interpolymers comprising polymer units derived from one or more  $\alpha$ -olefin monomers with one

60602A

or more vinyl or vinylidene aromatic monomers and/or hindered aliphatic or cycloaliphatic vinyl or vinylidene monomers.

10. (Twice Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of Claim 9; wherein

- A) Component A is one or more homopolymers of ethylene, or one or more C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>  $\alpha$ -olefin polymers, or a combination thereof;
- B) said halogenated flame retardant, Component B comprises one or more of hexahalodiphenyl ethers, octahalodiphenyl ethers, decahalodiphenyl ethers, decahalobiphenyl ethanes, 1,2-bis(trihalophenoxy) ethanes, 1,2-bis(pentahalophenoxy) ethanes, hexahalocyclododecane, a tetrahalobisphenol-A, ethylene(N, N')-bis-tetrahalophthalimides, tetrabromobisphenol A bis (2,3-dibromopropyl ether), tetrahalophthalic anhydrides, hexahalobenzenes, halogenated indanes, halogenated phosphate esters, halogenated paraffins, halogenated polystyrenes, polymers of halogenated bisphenol-A and epichlorohydrin, or a combination thereof;
- C) Component C, when present, comprises one or more of; a heterogeneous ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin interpolymer, a homogeneous ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin interpolymer, a thermoplastic olefin, a styrenic block copolymer, a styrenic homopolymer or copolymer, an elastomer, a thermoplastic polymer, a thermoset polymer; a vinyl or vinylidene halide homopolymer or copolymer, an engineering thermoplastics, or a combination thereof; and
- D) Component D is present and comprises one or more metal oxides, boron compounds, and organic peroxide compounds, or a combination thereof.

11. (Twice Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of Claim 9; wherein

- A) Component A is a homopolymer of ethylene, or a propylene polymer, or a combination thereof;
- B) said halogenated flame retardant, Component B comprises hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD), tetrabromobisphenol A bis (2,3-dibromopropyl ether), or a combination thereof;

60602A

- C) Component C, when present, comprises a heterogeneous ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin interpolymers, a homogeneous ethylene/ $\alpha$ -olefin interpolymers, or a combination thereof; and
- D) said flame retardant synergist, Component D, is present and comprises one or more iron oxide, tin oxide, zinc oxide, aluminum trioxide, alumina, antimony trioxide, antimony pentoxide, bismuth oxide, molybdenum trioxide, and tungsten trioxide, zinc borate, antimony silicates, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, ferrocene, dicumyl peroxide, and polycumyl peroxide, or a combination thereof.
12. (Twice Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of Claim 11; wherein
- A) Component A is LDPE or polypropylene, or a combination thereof;
- B) Component B is hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD), tetrabromobisphenol A bis (2,3-dibromopropyl ether), or a combination thereof;
- C) Component C, when present, is a substantially linear ethylene/1-octene copolymer; and
- D) Component D is present as antimony trioxide.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Once Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9 having a halogen content in the range from 0.1 to 15 weight-percent.
15. The macrocellular acoustic foam of Claim 9 in the form of an office partition, automotive decoupler, domestic appliance sound insulation, sound proofing panel or machine enclosure.
16. (Once Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9 having an average cell size according to ASTM D3576 in the range from 3 mm to 15 mm.

60602A

17. (Once Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9 having an average cell size according to ASTM D3576 in the range from 4 mm to 15 mm.
18. The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9, wherein Component A is a homopolymer of ethylene, or a propylene polymer, or a combination thereof.
19. The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9, wherein Component A comprises a propylene polymer.
20. The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 19, wherein the propylene polymer has a  $\tan \delta$  not greater than 1.5.
21. (Once Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 19 having an average cell size according to ASTM D3576 in the range from 4 mm to 15 mm.
22. (Once Amended) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 21 having a halogen content in the range from 0.1 to 15 weight-percent.
23. The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9, wherein component C is present and the polymer blend component having the highest melting point is present in an amount greater than 40 weight-percent in the blend.
24. (New) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9, wherein component A is the majority component of a blend with component C.
25. (New) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 9, wherein component C is absent.
26. (New) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 19, wherein component C is absent.

60602A

27. (New) The macrocellular acoustic foam of claim 22, wherein component C is absent.